



ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
Southern Regional Office (SRO)
400 W. Congress, Suite 433, Tucson, AZ 85701

DRAFT Minutes of the
Park-Euclid Water Quality Assurance Revolving Fund (WQARF) Site
Community Advisory Board (CAB) Meeting - 19th meeting

April 9, 2003, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Ha:Sañ Preparatory and Leadership School, Cafeteria,
1333 E. 10th Street, Tucson, Arizona

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CAB Members Present: Keith Bagwell, Richard Byrd, Don Davis, Freya Eddy, Nadine Gruhn, Mark Marikos, Jonathan Salvatierra, Eylon Shamir, Steven Turner, Mario Villarreal, Josefina Zapata

CAB Members Absent: Jacky Turchick

ADEQ Staff Present: Matt Doolen, Project Manager; Eileen Palese, Community Involvement Coordinator

Members of the Public Present: Dan Plazak, M. Geddis, Bob Boudra, Joe Drazek, Pat Thurman, Gordon Manning, Morley Watzman, Ted Warmbrand

The meeting began at 6:40 p.m.

1. Call to Order/Introductions

Co-chair Freya Eddy conducted introductions. CAB members introduced themselves.

2. Approval of Minutes

Keith Bagwell suggested that a correction be made to the February 26, 2003 minutes, item number 9, Next Meeting Date/Agenda Discussion; change Thursday to Wednesday in the first sentence. The CAB voted and approved the February 26, 2003, minutes with this correction.

3. Site Investigation Update and Brief Historical Review plus Q&A

Matt Doolen outlined the re-sampling of monitor wells and reviewed the quarterly monitoring reports. He showed a map of the PCE plume and said high levels of the contaminant were still showing north of Broadway Blvd. He said permission had been granted to put in two additional regional wells in this area to better characterize the plume. He said that the investigation to define the horizontal extent of the contamination in the perched aquifer has now been completed.

CAB members asked if diesel contamination was discovered in the recent sampling. Matt Doolen said that diesel was not detected in the monitor wells sampled. He showed a map of where the diesel

contamination is located; it is well defined on the north but not as well determined on the south. ADEQ plans to perform initial investigations of the diesel contamination, but funding is not available. He added that the diesel contamination is not moving at this time.

Matt Doolen showed a comparison of the regional aquifer plume of PCE from August of last year to the present time. He said he sees a variability in PCE concentrations. The downgradient extent of the contamination has not yet been well defined. CAB members asked questions about the extent of the plume in the perched and regional aquifers. He said that the groundwater flows have shifted over time, but generally it flows to the north.

Jonathan Salvatierra asked about the sewer near Mission Linen and if there is a concern that it might have previously contributed to the groundwater contamination. Matt Doolen explained that at one time the sewer flowed east along Freemont, but now goes to a manhole on 13th Street. He said it would be difficult to determine what contribution it might have had, but that Pima County recently replaced a section of pipe and is video-logging the pipe.

Matt Doolen said that routine monthly sampling of the University of Arizona (UA) production wells took place. He said PCE still shows in one of the sentinel wells, with fluctuations of low levels of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) appearing in the other monitor wells. He said no PCE or TCE contamination was found in the UA production wells. ADEQ continues to share data with UA facilities. He said he wants to install two more regional aquifer monitor wells in May, while funding still exists. Doorhangers will be distributed to Rincon Heights residents near the drilling.

Matt Doolen said that now that the soil sampling and groundwater investigations are complete, including the work Mission Linen has undertaken, the Remedial Investigation (RI) report can be drafted. The Land and Water Use Study, which the CAB had previously heard about through a presentation by Mike Fulton, will be the next step. These two documents will require input from the CAB and from the public. He said it is too soon to determine cleanup options; the site is particularly complicated because of the diesel contamination, the perched and regional aquifers, soil contamination, and drinking water production wells in the area.

Mike Fulton described the other WQARF sites in the Tucson area and the impact of the groundwater contamination. He said active production wells were impacted at the Broadway-Pantano WQARF Site and some other WQARF sites. In terms of source reduction, he said all options will be expensive to develop containment strategies. He said that the Western Groundwater Containment System has been installed at the Broadway-Pantano WQARF site, in cooperation with the City of Tucson, and a dedication ceremony will be held May 2 next to the Wilmot Library. Eileen Palese said that all CAB members are invited to attend (an invitation will be mailed to each). Mike Fulton said he could arrange a tour of the system if CAB members could not come to the event on May 2.

Matt Doolen introduced Bob Boudra, URS project manager for Mission Linen. He said that in 1998, Mission Linen did a soil gas investigation of the vadose zone. This was part of their Phase 4 investigation. After finding VOCs in the vadose zone, they implemented the Soil Vapor Extraction (SVE) system to try to remove as much contamination as possible. Last summer, it was determined that, with the existing well configuration, they had extracted as many VOCs as possible. Even after several periods of shut down of the SVE system, there was not much rebound of VOC vapors. A confirmation study was conducted in January/February to determine how well the SVE worked at removing PCE from the vadose zone. The data is now being evaluated, but he presented preliminary results to the CAB.

He showed a table comparing the results from the current investigation to the first investigation in 1998. He said that there is some variability affecting the numbers, but the comparison gives a good indication of what has taken place. He pointed out that URS saw significant reductions of the PCE contamination (in some cases 90%), and said, overall, it was a successful operation. CAB members asked questions about the vapor concentrations, soil boring locations, and the operation of the SVE. Bob Boudra said that once the report is completed, a recommendation for remediation will be made. The report will be reviewed by ADEQ. He said they do not have a timeline yet; some additional soil borings may need to be done. Future monitoring will also continue.

A question arose about Union Pacific Railroad's role in assisting with diesel cleanup near Mission Linen. Bob Boudra said that Mission Linen, ADEQ and others met with representatives of the railroad at their downtown pilot project. The system is designed to remove free product (diesel) from the shallow aquifer. He said URS is still in the process of evaluating whether this technology would work for the area around the Mission Linen facility. He said the perched aquifer contamination would eventually have to be addressed. One of the options being considered to remediate the PCE is to continue to operate the SVE system. Mission Linen is studying the best technology for the site.

4. Discussion of CAB Letter to State Legislators

Don Davis reviewed the process of writing a letter from the CAB to the state representatives (Districts 27 and 29). about the proposed cuts in WQARF funding, which would affect the Park-Euclid WQARF Site. He said the co-chairs did not e-mail the letter to the full CAB for review due to the restrictions of the Open Meeting Law. The letter was drafted by three members and he hoped everyone was satisfied with it. A response was received from Representative Tom Prezelski, District 29, who said he would attend the CAB meeting, but last minute commitments prevented him from attending.

Don Davis said he had been invited by the WQARF Advisory Board through ADEQ to attend their meeting April 25th in Phoenix. He said he understood that the members wanted to hear about the concerns of the CAB and are regularly inviting CAB co-chairs to present. He asked the CAB members to forward any ideas or concerns they have to incorporate into his presentation. CAB members expressed funding as one of their top concerns, not wanting a delay in the start of remediation work in the fall.

Mike Fulton addressed the budget, outlining the range of proposals for WQARF funding--from \$5 to \$10 million. He said the Governor proposed \$5 million. Previously WQARF was funded \$18 million, therefore, the program has had a 50% reduction over the last two years. Regarding the WQARF Advisory Board presentations, he gave an example of previous CAB presentations to the WQARF Advisory Board, saying that the co-chairs spoke about CAB activities, the interaction between board members and the department, and future challenges for the CAB and the site. CAB members offered suggestions to Don Davis on what the presentation should include. Don Davis summed up the presentation: he will describe the CAB history and activities, how the neighborhood feels about the site, and stress the need for funding to continue.

Joe Drazek said that ADEQ's Director, Steve Owens, asked the WQARF Advisory Board not to lobby the legislature for more money for the WQARF program because he is concerned that the agency would receive less money for other agency programs. He said the WQARF Board felt constrained after hearing his comments.

5. Call to the Public

Ted Warmbrand, who lives in the Barrio San Antonio neighborhood, said he heard that the Citizen's Advisory Committee formed to address the Arroyo Chico Project, has been terminated by the City of Tucson due to a lack of funding. He said the neighborhood was shocked and suggested people express their concerns to the city manager or to Councilmember Steve Leal to ask if this can be reversed. He said that without the committee there will be no public oversight of the project.

CAB members discussed the committee participation and purpose. Ted Warmbrand said the neighborhood wanted him to ask the CAB to draft a letter to ask for the committee to be reinstated. Richard Byrd suggested that anyone with a concern about the committee can contact Jim Glock, City of Tucson Transportation Department, and Steve Leal.

Don Davis said that he understands that the newsletter distribution service by the city Department of Neighborhood Resources may also cease due to budget cuts. He said this will make it more difficult to conduct neighborhood outreach.

6. Discussion and Final Nominations/Election of CAB Co-Chairs

The CAB decided to hold this item until the next next meeting due to the short time remaining.

7. Other Administrative Business/CAB Outreach Activities

No other business was raised.

8. Next Meeting Date/Agenda Discussion

Wednesday, July 30, was chosen for the date of the next meeting of the Park-Euclid Community Advisory Board. [The date for the meeting was postponed to Wednesday, August 27, 2003. It will be held at the State of Arizona Office Complex, 400 West Congress, North Building, Room 158, Tucson, Arizona.] Call Eileen Palese, ADEQ Community Involvement Coordinator, at (520) 628-6712 for more information.

CAB members debated whether the CAB should write a letter to the City of Tucson regarding the continuation of the Arroyo Chico Citizens Advisory Committee. Don Davis said that if they can't get a quorum of their own members at the meetings, then he can see why the committee was disbanded. Richard Byrd again encouraged people to contact the city to express their concern. Keith Bagwell said he thought it was important that a means exist for effective public input and moved to write a letter to the City of Tucson to express concern about the abolishment of the oversight committee for the Arroyo Chico Project. Jonathan Salvatierra seconded the motion.

Discussion continued. Don Davis said he will support the CAB writing a letter if there is a commitment by the neighborhood associations to first contact the city manager, Steve Leal and Jim Glock. Then the CAB can write the letter expressing concern that there won't be any further public input to the Arroyo Chico project, because this situation would impact the Park-Euclid WQARF Site remediation. He added that maybe the neighborhood needs to suggest a way to reorganize who represents the public interest. Richard Byrd said that the committee is required to have all neighborhoods and others represented. Freya Eddy and Mark Marikos said they would write the letter for the CAB after the Barrio San Antonio Neighborhood contacted the city. Jacky Turchick was volunteered to help write the CAB letter.

9. Adjournment

Adjourn at 8:45 p.m.

This meeting was recorded on cassette tapes as a record of the proceedings. To listen to the tapes or for additional documents mentioned in these minutes, contact ADEQ's Southern Regional Office, Community Involvement Office, 520/628-6712.

Minutes prepared by: Eileen Palese 8/8/03
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